

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

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FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM LUERS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PO

SUBJECT: FISHING ISSUES

1. DURING MY WORKING GROUP SESSION MOST OF THE DISCUSSION CENTERED AROUND VARIOUS POLISH CONCERNS ABOUT FISHING. WE WERE INFORMED THAT ONE OF THE AIDE-MEMOIRE BEING PRESENTED DEALT WITH THAT ISSUE. IN ADDITION TO THE AIDE MEMOIRE ON FISHING I WAS HANDED A DRAFT DOCUMENT, THE TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS IN PARAGRAPH 2.

2. BEGIN QUOTE. AS SO FAR THE COOPERATION IN FISHERIES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND POLAND HAS BEEN DEVELOPING TO THE SATISFACTION OF BOTH COUNTRIES. THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FROM 2ND AUGUST 1976 IS PROPERLY REALIZED BY
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POLISH SIDE. WITHIN ITS FRAMEWORK PARTICULARLY GOOD COOPERATION IS ACCOMPLISHED AT THE PLANKTON SORTING CENTRE IN SZCZECIN. POLISH CONTRIBUTION TO THE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN AMERICAN SHELF IS ALSO WELL APPRECIATED. HOWEVER, TO CONTINUE THIS COOPERATION IN GOOD AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE FOLLOWING PROBLEMS SHOULD BE RESOLVED:

POLISH OPINION IS THAT THE CATCH QUOTA GRANTED TO POLAND BY THE U.S. FOR 1978 SHOULD BE CORRECTED TO OUR FAVOUR. COMPARED WITH THOSE GRANTED TO OTHER COUNTRIES ARE BY 20 PER CENT LESS FOR THE SAME PERIOD OF TIME. WE

TAKE FOR MODERATE OUR DEMAND FOR THE QUOTA AS IN 1977 I.E. 69,960 TONS OF WHICH THE ATLANTIC PART - 37,260 TONS

WESTERN COAST(PACIFIC)20,000 TONS
ALASKA COAST (PACIFIC) 7,000 TONS

POLAND IS INTERESTED IN GETTING INTO COOPERATION WITH AMERICAN FISHERMEN AND FISHING ENTERPRISES. SUPPORTED BY AMERICAN FISHERMEN AND FISHING ENTERPRISES POLAND APPLIED FOR OFFICIAL RECOGNITION BY AMERICAN AUTHORITIES. LACK OF ADEQUATE REGULATIONS IN THIS MATTER FROM AMERICAN SIDE IS A SIGNIFICANT OBSTACLE IN FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH COOPERATION.

IN POLISH OPINION THE ALLOCATION OF THE CATCH QUOTA IN SO CALLED "OPEN WINDOWS" IS A SERIOUS IMPEDIMENT IN THE CATCH ACTIVITIES. THIS METHOD OFTEN MAKES FULL REALIZATION OF CATCHES IMPOSSIBLE. BESIDES IT ENABLES PUNISHING POLISH CAPTAINS AND NAVIGATORS BECAUSE OF THEIR CASUAL ENTRANCES TO FORBIDDEN FISHING AREAS. IT ALSO MAKES POLISH FISHERMEN DISAPPOINTED WITH THE FALL OF THEIR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INCOMES WHICH DIRECTLY DEPEND ON CATCHES.

APART FROM QUOTAS THE U.S. ESTABLISH FISHING EFFORT AS WELL. THIS IS THE NUMBER OF DAYS IN WHICH THE VESSEL MAY OPERATE WHILE CATCHING HER QUOTA IN A GIVEN AREA. THE VESSEL MUST LEAVE THE AREA WHEN THIS TERM EXPIRES.

USUAL PRACTICE IS ESTABLISHING TOO FEW DAYS. POLISH VESSELS ARE NOT SO WELL EQUIPPED AS AMERICAN AND THEY DON'T REACH THEIR DAILY QUOTAS. IT ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO LOSSES IN CREWS' SALARIES. WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT THIS FISHING TIME SHOULD BE PROLONGED ACCORDING TO OUR CATCH POSSIBILITIES.

BOTH SIDES CONSIDER VERY USEFUL STARTING JOINT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN THE HIGH SEA WHICH IN COMMON OPINION IS TO BE A RESERVE AREA FOR CATCHING SEA ANIMALS IN THE NEAREST FUTURE.

IN THIS PURPOSE DIRECT COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SEA FISHERIES INSTITUTE IN GDYNIA AND (LEFT BLANK IN DRAFT) WILL BE ESTABLISHED.

THE FIRST WORKING MEETING OF BOTH INSTITUTES WILL TAKE
PLACE IN THE U.S. IN THE SECOND HALF OF JANUARY, 1978.
END QUOTE.

3. I HAVE YET TO SEE THE THREE AIDE-MEMOIRE WE WERE

PROMISED ON THE LAST DAY OF THE MEETING. IF THEY ARE
IMPORTANT TO THE PREPARATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT,
I TRUST YOU WILL SEND THEM BY CABLE.

4. ALSO AS YOU RECALL, WE AGREED TO HAVE GENERAL TALKS
ON THE ENTIRE RANGE OF FISHERIES ISSUES WITHIN THE NEXT
FEW MONTHS. WE WOULD WELCOME ANOTHER DELEGATION HERE
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TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES AND EXPLAIN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT
POSITION IF THE POLISH GOVERNMENT WOULD BE INTERESTED. CHRISTOPHER

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